

**Amendments to the Claims**

Please cancel claims 1-15. Newly added claims 16-24 are set out below.

1.-15 (Canceled)

16. (New) A method to initialize an error buffer in a monochrome digital image reproduction system, comprising:

generating a set of seed values from a random number generator;

controlling the selection of the seed values from the random number generator such that the seed values are relatively large, likely to cause a dot to be printed, producing a set of selected seed values; and

populating the error buffer with the set of selected seed values.

17. (New) The method of claim 16, generating a set of seed values being performed at initialization of the digital image reproduction system.

18. (New) A method to initialize error buffers in a color digital image reproduction system, comprising:

generating a first set of seed values;

generating a second set of seed values so as to negatively correlate the second set of seed values with the first;

generating a third set of seed values; and

populating three error buffers with the sets of seed values.

19. (New) The method of claim 18, generating at least one set of seed values further comprising generating a set of seed values from a first constant.

20. (New) The method of claim 19, generating a second set of seed values further comprising generating a second set of seed values from a second constant and then altering the seed values to negatively correlate to the first set.

21. (New) The method of claim 20, generating a third set of seed values further comprising generating a third set of seed values from a third constant different from the first and second constants.

22. (New) The method of claim 18, generating a second set of seed values further comprising performing a negative correlation from the first set of seed values to form the second set of seed values.

23. (New) The method of claim 22, performing a negative correlation further comprising multiplying the first set of seed values by a negative number to form the second set of seed values.

24. (New) A method to initialize error buffers in a digital image reproduction system, comprising:

generating two random numbers from a random number generator;

applying a first function to the two random numbers to generate a first set of seed values;

applying a second function that is 120 degrees out of phase from the first function to the two random numbers to generate a second set of seed values;

applying a third function that is 120 degrees out of phase from the first and second functions to generate a third set of seed values.